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October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The FCC could jeopardize wireless investment with its upcoming announcement on network neutrality. The regulations under consideration are clearly a wrong step that will stifle growth at a time when new jobs and new dollars in the economy are needed most.

Network neutrality regulations will stifle innovation, investment and job growth. This is true in wireless networks, just as it is true in broadband policy. In each case, heavily regulating the operations of the Internet will damage the broadband progress in Alabama, particularly the Hoover Area.

The new administration has emphasized the importance of infrastructure projects and other job creators. There is no greater example of that than the fast-growing wireless industry, where many competitive companies are building out their networks to bring improved service to consumers. It is also true of broadband networks, which can bring a host of benefits to Alabama through better access to tools supporting education, health care and government access.

Building out networks means jobs, improved quality of life and the long-term infrastructure we need to build on our local economies. Thus, it is absolutely critical that the FCC does not impose network neutrality regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill Powell', written over a horizontal line.

Bill Powell
Executive Director